

U.S. Department of Justice
United States Attorney
Western District of New York

Further inquiries: (716)843-5814

138 Delaware Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14202

PRESS RELEASE

June 16, 2004

RE: UNITED STATES v. CARLO D'ANGELO

United States Attorney announced today that a complaint charging Carlo D'Angelo, age 25, of 104 Cranburne Lane, Williamsville, with in violation of Title 21 , United States Code, Section 841(a)(1) (possession with the intent to manufacture, distribute or dispense a controlled substance) and Title 21, United States Code, Section 957 (importing into the United States a controlled substance or List I Chemical), carrying a maximum penalty of 20 years imprisonment, a fine of \$1,000,000, or both. It should be noted that the fact that a defendant has been charged with a crime . . . is merely an accusation and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty. **(Disciplinary Rule 7-107(B)(6)).**

Assistant U.S. Attorney Michael DiGiacomo stated that the complaint charges the defendant with ordering and receiving by mail 5 kilograms of Sassafras oil. Safron, a precursor of MDMA can be readily extracted from sassafras oil.

In addition to arresting D'Angelo Law enforcement also executed a search

warrant at 104 Cranburne Lane, Williamsville New York. During the execution of the search warrant agents discovered a laboratory inside the residence that consisted of glassware and various chemicals used to make MDMA and Methamphetamine. Also recovered was \$2,400.00 cash and almost 1 Kilogram of marijuana. Due to the nature of the chemicals located inside the home agents had to fly chemists into the area to clean up the home. Agents tested the air quality in the home for any toxins that ultimately tested negative.

The complaint was the culmination of an investigation on the part of the Drug Enforcement Administration, under the direction of Mark Peterson, Resident Agent in Charge, Drug Enforcement Administration, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, under the direction of Special Agent in Charge Peter Smith, the New York State Police, under the direction of Major Tom Askey, the Amherst Police Department, under the direction of John Moslow, Chief of Police, the Niagara County Sheriff's Department, under the direction of Sheriff Thomas Belien and Mark Driess, Chief of the Niagara County Drug Task Force, and the Erie County Sheriff's Department, under the direction of Sheriff Patrick Gallivan.

* * *